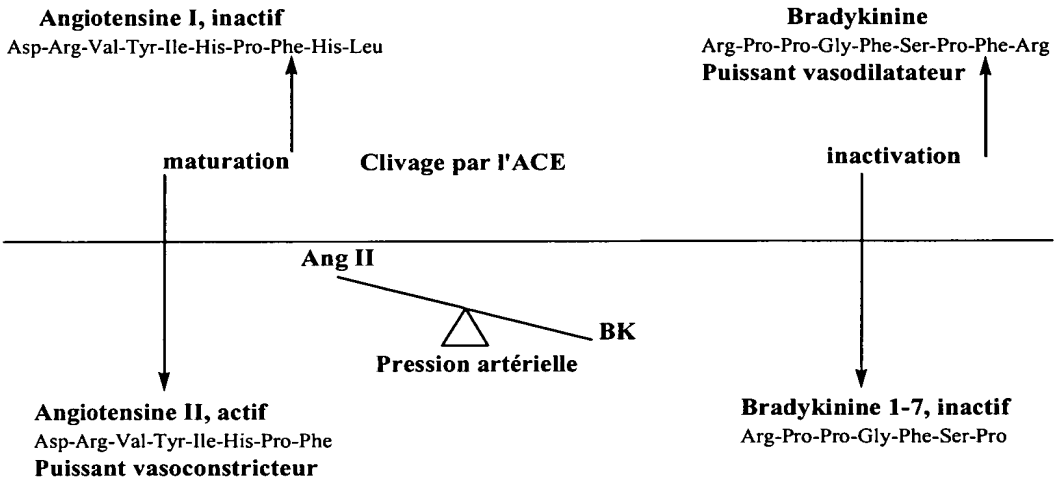
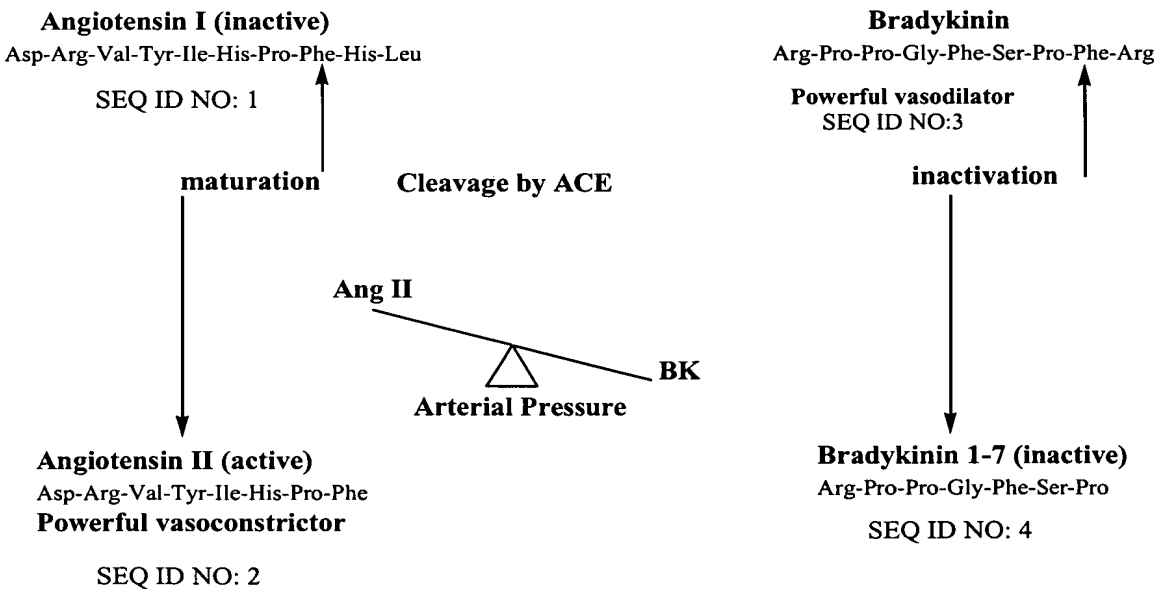
IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, lines 5-10, with the following rewritten paragraph:





Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, lines 14-23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Despite all the studies performed for more than 20 years on ACE, it is still not known whether the presence of two active sites in mammalian ACE, resulting from duplication of an ancestral gene, corresponds to a particular functional role. However, the recent discovery that, *in vivo*, in man, the peptide Ac-SDKP (N-acetyl Ser-Asp-Lys-Pro) (SEQ ID NO:5) is essentially cleaved via the N-terminal active site of ACE, argues in ~~favour~~ favor of a distinct functional role for each of the active sites of ACE (reference [6]).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, lines 6-14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The first inhibitor that selectively blocks the N-terminal site of ACE, RXP407, which is a phosphinic pseudopeptide, has recently been developed (references [7] and [8]). This inhibitor, which is not metabolized in rats and mice, is, moreover, capable of inhibiting the degradation of the peptide N-acetyl Ser-Asp-Lys-Pro (Ac-SDKP) (SEQ ID NO:5) *in vivo* in mice (reference [9]). Thus, the injection of RXP407, by blocking the N-terminal site of ACE, would prevent the *in vivo* degradation of Ac-SDKP.

Following the Abstract on page 61 beginning a new page, please insert the attached Sequence Listing.